

**Workshop in Public Policy Research I  
(PubPolicy 8101)  
Fall 2026**

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Office hours: by arrangement, following each class session.

**Description:**

Our Workshops provide background on and understandings of policy research for first year doctoral students in Public Policy.

**Objectives:**

The Workshops:

1. Support you with ways/means for success as a doctoral student.
2. Fulfill your required Georgia Tech training on Responsible Research Conduct (sessions with asterisks in the syllabus).
3. Introduce you to research projects and perspectives through
  - a) participation in each session of the Workshops on Original Policy Research (WOPR).
  - b) attendance at i) one dissertation proposal and ii) one dissertation final presentation.
  - c) attendance at one or more Georgia Tech, Georgia State, or Emory colloquia with invited speakers, talks of job candidates, or related (check your email and the IAC weekly calendar).

**Assignments realize these aims:**

1. You are expected to **attend** every class session and each WOPR session.
2. Sessions on Responsible Research Conduct:  
For each of these, required is a summary (200-250 words) of the session and our discussion on the topic that:
  - a) identifies and explains the issues raised;
  - b) identifies the ethical challenges;
  - c) proposes ways to address the challenges.The summaries are due via email: within one week following a given session.

3. Dissertation proposals and final dissertation meetings Colloquia:  
 For each attended, required is a summary that includes:
  - a) the presentation date, title, and speaker;
  - b) a summary that identifies i) the research question(s), ii) methods of inquiry, c) central findings, and ii) conclusions (including any avenues for continuing research). These may be addressed in two or three sentences for each part (a-d).The summaries are due via email within one week following the meeting or colloquia.  
 Email: [mary.fox@pubpolicy.gatech.edu](mailto:mary.fox@pubpolicy.gatech.edu)

**Evaluation** is pass or fail for each assignment. You have the opportunity to rewrite/resubmit two of the total assignments – as a means toward improvement.

**POLICIES**

1. All written assignments represent students/ ideas expressed in their own words. . .  
*Any source* used, non-electronic (analog) or on-line (digital), is fully referenced and mandatory in all assignments. *Do not include anything in an assignment that you do not write, directly.*

The Georgia Tech Honor Code applies to students' assignments:  
<https://policylibrary.gatech.edu/student-life/academic-honor-code>  
Failure to comply is academic misconduct – and treated as such.

2. Except in cases of medical emergency, no late papers are accepted and no incomplete grades are given. Please also see option above to rewrite/resubmit one of the two shorter papers.

3. We abide by the Georgia Tech Faculty-Student Expectations Agreement:  
<https://catalog.gatech.edu/rules/21/>

4. The Georgia Tech Disability Office provides services for disabilities:  
<https://disabilityservices.gatech.edu/>

## SESSIONS AND TOPICS

**Two types of sessions:**

**\*Responsible Research Conduct s – led by Mary Frank Fox and other Public Policy experts on the subjects.**

**WOPR Sessions will be presentations on Original Research in Progress – and the full list is developed and distributed at the beginning of the semester.**

**A. Overview**

**B. WOPR Session**

Example:

Dr. Lukasz Szymula

Adam Mickiewicz University

Visiting Professor

“Global Patterns of Extreme Publishing Portfolios: Do Productivity and Innovation Coincide?”

**C. Conduct and Misconduct\***

**D. Data Management\***

**E. WOPR Session**

**F. WOPR Session**

**G. Conflict of Interest\***

**H. WOPR Session**

**I. Mentoring\***

**J. WOPR Session**

**K. Collaboration and Collaborative Research\***

**L. WOPR Session**

**M. Individual Meetings to Support Success**

**N. WOPR Session**

Thanksgiving Recess

Followed by GT Exam Period – no classes